

YOLO COUNTY
System Improvement Plan Approval Document
Received February 15, 2005

Program Areas	Improvement Plan			Anticipated Date of Completion
	*Required		Strategy	
	Yes	No		
Safety:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Recurrence of Maltreatment	X		<ul style="list-style-type: none">All social workers be familiar with risk and safety assessment criteria and apply criteria throughout the life of an open caseBuild on Core Curriculum training provided through the Regional Training Academy (RTA)Design and distribute to staff written guidelines to use in assessing safety elements and needsDevelop written reference information to be used by staff outlining the criteriaReview with community partner agencies Yolo County CWS's screening criteria and process for assessing safety and on-going needsArrange with RTA for standardized Safety and Risk Assessment training for CWS staff, intra-agency partners (CalWorks and CalLearn) and community partnersTest use the standardized tool in ER telephone screening, analyze and expand it to other components incrementallyDevelop formal ER telephone differential response systemAnalyze all incoming referrals using Business Objects in effort to identify contributing factors affecting performance measuresModify current CWS/CMS data entry practices and/or clarify with staff coding issues	All task to be completed by 09/2005

*The "yes" in the required column represents measures that did not meet the PIP target. The January 2004 and October 2004 county data reports were used.

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			<i>Quarterly reports, SM, and contact with county will be used to monitor progress.</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abuse/Neglect in foster care 		X		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timely ER Response (process measure) 		X		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Worker Visits with child (process measure) 		X		
Permanency				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time to Reunification 		X		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time to Adoption 	X		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decrease the length of time to achieve legal permanency for Yolo County children. Conduct review of all juvenile court cases opened within the past six (6) months as of 10/01/04. Determine if case has a Juvenile Court disposition order, contains documented information related to Concurrent Planning. Train all SW on Concurrent Services Planning utilizing RTA resources or State Adoption staff. Train on State processes, WIC 366.26 referral timeframe requirements, notice of hearing requirements, need for timely receipt of WIC 366.26 Court orders Develop written Concurrent Planning Policy and Procedures Develop desk guide with roles, 	All tasks to be completed by 06/2005

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			<p>responsibilities and processes to effect timely and regular communication between county staff and State Adoption staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand county/state staff case review to include review of ER and FR cases and identify appropriate concurrent referrals • Identify and review all existing Family Reunification cases which have been in the foster care system between six and 10 months • Ensure all factors listed in Strategy 1.1 have been addressed and documented as a formal written referral to State Adoptions for assessment is on file, along with all vital statistical forms necessary to the case • Create written tool for tracking case movement post-termination of FR services and implement tool • Evaluate CWS/CMS use issues by both county and State Adoptions to ensure cases are entered timely and accurately, and do data clean-up as necessary • Hold regular meetings between CWS, State Adoptions, and Juvenile Court to review statutes, issues, and other requirements effecting timely permanency for children • Discuss with Court the feasibility of designating quarterly meetings specific to Adoption issues and include State Adoption staff, CWS and attorneys • Discuss with Court ways to ensure that relatives, foster parents, and pending adoptive parents feel they are an important part of the court processes 	
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Placement Stability 		X		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foster Care re-entry 	X		<p>Although Yolo County did not address this federal measure into the SIP, Strategies that are included to address Recurrence of Maltreatment and will also impact this measure include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build on core curriculum training to use safety and risk assessments throughout the life of the case (SDM) Standardize tool in ER telephone screening and utilize the differential response system for referring families Expand services for families who are experiencing abuse neglect risk issues that have been in the system Expand services to families who do not meet legal definition of abuse but are experiencing problems that may possibly escalate to level requiring intervention <p>Such strategies will ultimately reduce the foster care re-entry rate as well as other indicators identified as high priority areas</p>	All tasks to be completed by 06/2005
			<i>Quarterly reports, SM, and contact with county will be used to monitor progress.</i>	
Well-Being				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preserving family relationships 		X		

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Least Restrictive Placements 		X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish written guidelines for SW while selecting least restrictive placement for child, emphasizing the value of kinship care Provide refresher training for staff focusing on importance of kin-care in the context of concurrent planning Develop and issue written Agency guidelines regarding relative assessments and emergency placement with relatives Utilize components of Family Group Conferencing Ensure that inquiry of all relatives occur at the beginning of a case and at all subsequent points throughout the life of the case Establish process for immediate clearance of relatives for initial placement Develop forms for parents to complete identifying relative caregivers and have social worker for follow-up Train social workers to inquire about relatives prior to every court hearing Establish and maintain clear and effective working relationships with relative caregivers Ensure that relative are informed of available resources, how to access resources CWS agency staff will collaborate with the community college Foster and Kinship Care Education (FKCE) Program to further develop training and support resources for relative caregivers 	08/2005
			<i>Quarterly reports, SM, and contact with county will be used to monitor progress.</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICWA Placements 		X		

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">ILP		X		
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Systemic				
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Statewide Information System				
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Case review System				
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Quality Assurance System				
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Workload				
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Service Array				
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Agency Responsiveness to the Community				
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Foster and Adoptive Parent Licensing, Recruitment and Retention				

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